

Maynard McKillen

From: Maynard McKillen <mckillen.maynard@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2016 11:45 AM
To: DOA Public Records Board Comments
Cc: Blessing, Matthew T - WHS; Ferguson, Paul M - DOJ; Naab, Bryan S - LAB; Schmidt, Melissa A - LEGIS; Broady-Rudd, Sandra; Buesing, Carl; Sorce, Peter
Subject: Public Access to all Records Concerning Matters in the Public Interest

Matthew Blessing, etal:

"Quietly, with no public notice or reporting, the board changed the definition of "transitory records" — those deemed to have only temporary significance."

Try injecting a little humility into your work ethic: recognize that you cannot fully fathom the consequences of this change that your superiors ordered you to make, put aside your misplaced and misguided ideological/political loyalties, and take public comment and input from Wisconsinites who collectively have a broader perspective and vastly more objectivity and knowledge about this "point of clarity."

No, I get it. It's easier to follow orders. But this is about growing up, about thinking, acting and speaking like adults, even if it means cutting yourself off from the sociopaths and ideologues who put you in your current position, even if you must reject their empty promises and their empty ideology, all of which merely provided you with a false identity, a mask to hide behind.

"Make no mistake, the board's action will be used (that is, abused) by people in power to limit access to text messages, emails, Facebook posts and other electronic communication by public employees. It also encourages them to conduct the public's business in the shadows through such tools. When government employees conduct the public's business and spend the taxpayers' dollars electronically, citizens have an interest in those communications and a right to see them."

"That point was made crystal clear just one day after the board's quiet decision to redefine transitory records. Gov. Scott Walker's administration hid behind the board's action, saying it didn't have text messages requested by the Wisconsin State Journal and adding that officials didn't have to retain such messages."

You can either aid and abet corruption and back-room dealings, or you can serve the public. The first is easy: just follow orders. The second will allow you to sleep better, and to raise your head in the presence of family and friends.

"The newspaper had sought text messages linked to a \$500,000 loan by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. to Building Committee Inc., which was promoted by top administration appointees. WEDC officials later strove to get [federal taxpayer dollars](#) to help the struggling Milwaukee-based company even though the [loan to BCI went sour](#) within months and the owner of the firm, a

Walker donor named William Minahan, had provided false information to the state. ”

You really want this coverup to be the legacy of your term of office? Whatever delusions you entertain about the “work” you are doing, your shortsightedness will return to bite you in the ass.

“Those text messages about a pet corporate welfare project belonged to the public just as surely as written notes from the administration would have belonged to the public. Walker's administration demonstrated in this instance, as it has time and again, that it has little regard for open government while claiming that it follows the law. It has done so multiple times in the past year.”

What would a man or woman of integrity do?

Maynard McKillen
Wisconsinite since 1966